

There Will Be a Change

In a couple of days. The busy rush of holiday trade will then give way to the logical reaction.

We are thoroughly alive to that fact, and will not take chances on after-Christmas buying.

THE PRICES BELOW

are printed for a final knock-out now, at a time when they will do you the most good.

CLOAK CUTS

The choice of the finest Cloth Jackets in our stock, priced up to \$30 and \$40, for... \$18.75
The choice of any jacket priced up to \$20 for... \$9.95
Many others priced up to \$12 and \$14 for... \$5.95

DRESS GOODS BARGAINS

Printed Cashmeres, imported... \$5.98
Black Brocade Silk Dress Skirts... \$12.75
Ready to wear, \$3.50 to... \$5.95

PAIDS

In silk and wool mixtures, \$1.25 and \$1.50 ones, now... \$1.00
Any \$1 one now... 85 cts.
All \$1 one now... 65 cts.

Novelties

A good assortment of dollar ones at a yard... 69 cts.
The ones at a yard... 58 cts.

BLACK SILKS

Heavy Brocades, 22-inch width... \$1.00
Satin Duchesse, fine finish... \$1.00
Peau de Soie, good, all silk... 98 cts.

Third Floor Offerings

Odd pairs of \$4 Lace Curtains, a pair... \$1.75
\$3.50
Some few \$4 Portieres, a pair... \$2.00
Cord Portieres, half price, a pair... \$1.50

Special Christmas Novelties

are now ready for their exit. Prices that will close them by to-morrow night. Glove Boxes, Handkerchief Boxes, Toilet Sets, Shaving Sets, Celluloid Novelties, Perfumes, etc.

L. S. AYRES & CO

Open To-Night

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

A PIANO

Is a Gift to the Whole Family.

We are offering our magnificent stock of high grade

PIANOS AND ORGANS

At prices that will be the lowest ever quoted. At the same time we have a great number of Slightly-Used and Second-Hand Pianos, Both Uprights and Squares.

D. H. BALDWIN & CO.

95, 97 & 99 North Pennsylvania St.

ART EMPORIUM

Telephone 500.

To-Morrow—Then Christmas!

Those who wish something in the nature of a present that will not be a transient pleasure, but "A thing of Beauty and a Joy forever" should take cognizance of our Engravings, Etchings, Photographs, Water Colors, Etc.

The H. LIEBER COMPANY,

33 South Meridian St.

The Purchasing Power of A

... DOLLAR ...

Goes a great way toward securing an elegant Christmas Gift at

BADGER'S

Book Cases, Tables, China Closets, Rockers, Fancy Chairs, Desks, Sideboards, Couches.

An Onyx Table for \$2.95

BADGER FURNITURE CO.

75 and 77 East Washington Street, 26 and 24 Virginia Avenue.

ANEW WATER CONTRACT

MR. DAVIS QUITE SHY IN AGREEING TO ANY CONCESSIONS.

City Wants Free Water for Its Public Buildings—Company's Claim as to Appraisers.

F. A. W. Davis, vice president of the Indianapolis Water Company, attended a conference with the Board of Public Works yesterday afternoon, at which Mayor Taggart and Councilmen Colter, Montgomery, Smith, Dewar, O'Connor and Shaffer were also present.

The conference was for a discussion of a new contract between the city and water company. The present contract expires Jan. 1, 1897, but its provisions remain in force until a new one is made.

Under the contract now existing the city has six months to exercise its option to buy the water works, but it has not done so.

There is a proviso whereby appraisers may be delegated to fix the value of the plant in case of disagreement, two to be selected by the company, two by the city and a fifth by the other four.

It is the contention of the city attorney, a majority decision of the appraisers would be binding, while Mr. Davis said yesterday the company contends the appraisers must come to a unanimous agreement before their decision is binding.

If this should prove true, which few of the councilmen believe, the water company has what one councilman described as a "chinch."

Mr. Davis spent time explaining what the company has done to furnish pure water, speaking at length of the wells that have been drilled. He seemed to believe it untrue that water from the deep wells is any harder than heretofore.

Mr. Davis is forced to the bottom of the wells through air pipes. Acting on the water from below, the automatic pressure of the air forced the wells to flow. The globules of air, he said, were very beneficial, and the aeration had the effect of precipitating the iron almost entirely.

Mr. Davis said that the water from the outer air, it is at first a little milky, but clears rapidly. It was admitted by those who heard Mr. Davis's explanation that the water now furnished is pure, on the strength of the formation given by the president of the Board of Public Works.

Mr. Davis suggested this could not be doubted if the company would agree to have the water connected with White river sealed up and opened only on permission of the Board of Health.

President Downing had a brief memorandum of what concessions the city will make in a year for fire hydrants. Mr. Downing said the city wanted the price reduced to \$45. Afterward the mayor said Council Downing had made a mistake, as the city wants the price reduced to \$40.

Mr. Davis was somewhat amused at this correction. In reply he said there were several things that the company had laid out of its mains, from which it receives absolutely no revenue except what is paid by the city for hydrants.

He further said prices were cheaper here on an average than in other cities where all improvements have been completed. Here, however, the company is being required every year to put down additional mains.

FREE WATER FOR CITY BUILDINGS.

To the assertion that the city wants free water for all its public buildings, like the City Hospital, Tomlinson Hall, firehouses, etc., Mr. Davis made no definite reply, as in fact he did not see the propriety of such concessions.

Mr. Davis wished to place the demands of the city before the directors of the company, and was noncommittal yesterday.

Besides the concessions asked above which the city wants an agreement by which hydrants may be placed as far apart as one thousand feet, in some of the less densely populated districts, like North Indianapolis, and as close as 250 feet in downtown districts, Mr. Davis said that the company also expected to lay mains on cross streets without additional charge.

Mr. Davis said that the company had been laying mains with guarantees of sufficient patrons were furnished.

President Downing admitted it was true the company has many mains from which hydrants have now received water. Mr. Davis declared he did not believe that would be true after the Board of Health issued a decree that no hydrant should be placed where the time comes, he said, he believed the company would find hundreds of places where hydrants would be needed.

Mayor Taggart inquired what will be done with hydrants in grassy places where streets have been made narrower and sidewalks have been moved in from the street.

Mr. Davis said that the company would be placed near inlets to sewers, as there is danger of freezing.

There was some talk of abandoning the system of maintaining stand pipes on the streets for sprinkling wagons. Constant complaints have been made against them.

Mr. Davis intimated some plan could be devised to have the stand pipes abandoned, speaking on this subject the board informed Mr. Davis that complaints had been made who were sprinkling with water from the stand pipes.

Mr. Davis said that the company would be paid the full price for a stand pipe last December, although water was used from it only one day.

Mr. Davis said that the contractor must have been violating his contract with the city or he would have used it more frequently.

"You think he ought to have more sprinkling, do you?" asked the mayor with a smile.

Mr. Davis assented. He said also that a present that will not be a transient pleasure, but "A thing of Beauty and a Joy forever" should take cognizance of our Engravings, Etchings, Photographs, Water Colors, Etc.

Open evenings.

The H. LIEBER COMPANY,

33 South Meridian St.

THEFT OF BICYCLES.

Young Switzer Identified by Ludwig as One Who Pawned a Wheel.

One evening about two weeks ago R. L. Webb, treasurer of the Bell's Bicycle Company, left his bicycle standing in front of the Ingalls block, at the corner of Pennsylvania and Washington streets, while he was upstairs attending to some business.

When he came down his wheel was gone. He left a description of it at the police station, but there was no clue to the thief.

Tuesday night as Albert Canning, a Western Union Telegraph messenger boy, was passing through the alley in the rear of the Ingalls block he noticed a bicycle leaning against the wall. There was apparently no owner for it, and he took it to his home, on West Maryland street, and immediately notified the police.

Yesterday a detective took the wheel to the police station, and upon investigation it was found to be Mr. Webb's missing mount. When he last saw the wheel it had a beautiful glossy blue enamel, but this had been scratched off with a piece of emery block substance resembling blue and lamplack. The black coating was scratched from part of the frame, and the blue enamel became visible.

The detectives are still tracing down the parties who pawned the stolen wheels that have been taken from pawnshops and identified at the police station. Tuesday night a young man named Switzer, whose father is a pension agent, living at No. 34 North Illinois street, was charged with the charge of being implicated in the theft of some bicycles.

He was of very respectable appearance, having a number of friends in the city, asked to be allowed to give a fictitious name when he was asked.

Switzer consented to his using a fictitious name.

"Will Davis, then," answered Switzer without hesitation, and the detectives at once became slightly interested in the member of the bicycles that had been taken from the pawnshop of C. G. Ludwig, at No. 21 North Meridian street, had been pawned under that name. Switzer was not questioned.

THE SHOPPING DISTRICTS JAMMED WITH CROWDS OF WOMEN.

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There is many a man in this city who advocates temperance principles from the bottom of his heart, but who nevertheless has found it a physical impossibility to walk in a straight line along the sidewalks of Washington street, between Pennsylvania and Illinois streets. This was patent last night.

The sidewalks were simply jammed with Christmas shoppers all day and far into the night the rush continued. By Christmas shoppers are implied women, for the men who are looking after Christmas purchases dart into the stores, fix their eyes on a basket and keep one eye on the crowds along the counters. Others hurry to their eating places, hurry back again jerk off their coats, swear softly because of crowded sidewalks, which make necessary lively going to gain any distance at all, and then dive into the selling of Christmas presents again.

Not only do the streets swarm with people, but all kinds of bundles are lugged along with the multitude. There are big bulky bundles, some with sharp points, and bundles that must be carried carefully.

But everybody seems happy and it makes no difference if there is no snow on the ground. Christmas has been heralded by the holly and evergreen decorations and many a bustling party is taken home from the city by the business rush in a state of utter collapse.

At each of the eleven kindergartens of the city Christmas was celebrated yesterday morning. All the children were present with clean hands and bright eyes, and for the event. The board of managers and friends had made special preparations for the occasion.

The children were given a festive look with Christmas garlands and holly wreaths. Presents each child had a toy, some candy and an orange, and each took home a book of its own work.

The little girls were given a book of their own work, and the little boys a book of their own work.

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HIGH CHRISTMAS TIDE

At 10:30 Rt. Rev. Bishop Chataud will celebrate a pontifical mass and will preach. The musical programme will be the same as at the 4 o'clock high mass.

At 2 o'clock there will be pontifical vesters celebrated by Bishop Chataud. The programme of the vesper music is as follows: Ant. Domine, ad adjuvandum me. Gloria: Ps. Canticum: Ps. De Profundis. Gregorian: Ps. Memento Domine, Gregor. hymn: Jesu Redemptor. Omnia: Ps. Decem: Ps. Magnificat. Decem: Ps. Magnificat. Decem: Ps. Magnificat.

The choir consists of the following members: Organist and director, George Hebbel. Sopranos—Misses Mamie Marcy, Kate Ward, Bertha Coulter, Fannie Delaney, Anna Maloney, Allos—Misses Annie Ebert and Lizzie Delaney. Girls—Misses Thea Cantolin and J. Fremont J. Frey. Basses—Messrs. Frank Dewald, Martin Grady and V. D. Deum.

The programme for St. Mary's Church, Christmas morning, includes Leonard's mass in E flat, Lamberti's "Pastores," as an offertory, and La Hache's Vespers. The choir will be assisted by the organ.

The choir is as follows: Sopranos, Misses Alma Schergens, Lizzie Monday, Carrie Turle, Mary Kralich, Misses Volker and Miss Albin; altos, Misses Laura Stake and Lena Hurrie; tenors, Messrs. J. Dehning and P. Aukerbrock; basses, Messrs. J. Strack, J. Buenagel and T. Wendeling.

Mr. Claus at Columbia Club.

Santa Claus will come down the chimney at the Columbia Club at 9 o'clock to-night, snow or no snow, and for every member of the club he will have a present. Henry C. Adams has been cast for the role of Mr. Claus, and all due note has been made of the dimensions of the chimney. In the dining room of the club a big Christmas tree, sparkling with incandescent lights, will be arranged.

Not a Sportsman.

It will fill Benjamin Harrison and Grover Cleveland with disgust when they learn that the president-elect neither fishes nor shoots ducks.

Christmas Hats.

The best and most fashionable hats made are Dunlap's celebrated hats at Seaton's hat store.

A Little Time Yet!

A little time yet in which to obtain the special holiday. Time is money—that is it said to be so. In order to save money, time must be economically used. The choice goods are being sold at great prices, and are being selected by the ladies as well as gentlemen and in hundreds of homes.

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When the Prince of Wales was in America

By STEPHEN FISKE

When young women nearly lost their senses in a frenzy of romantic excitement, and an entire church congregation forgot itself and stood on the cushions of the pews. Balls, fetes and dinners ruled the day. Mr. Fiske was the Prince's constant companion, and he now tells the wonderful story in the January Ladies' Home Journal.

10 Cents on All News-stands

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA

If You're an Expert

Judge of diamonds and precious stones you can buy anywhere, as your knowledge of color, cut and refractory power will protect you from the overcharges of the price-juggling merchant. If you are just an ordinary judge of these goods, how much better for your pocketbook to come here, where your money is the same as your neighbor's, the poor the same as the rich, we have jewels to suit all, prices to satisfy all, and—your money back, if you want it.

J. C. SPIE, Fine Diamonds

Room 4, 18 1/2 North Meridian St.

DESCHLER'S

FOR Xmas Cigars, Tobacco Pouches, Cigar Holders, Tobacco Jars, HUMIDORS, ETC.

Cor. Pennsylvanian and Market Sts.